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Assembly California Legislature



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405 lane cut from list

Re "Brakes slammed on 405 HOV lane" (Feb. 17):

After years of enduring unremitting congestion, the 280,000 Valley residents and other motorists who travel the 405 Freeway were poised to get some relief - a northbound car-pool lane. Until last week, that is. That's when the California Transportation Commission staff made the unbelievable decision not to provide the transportation-bond funding the project needs. We cannot allow this outrageous staff decision to stand.

The CTC staff apparently decided against funding the 405 because it "infers" that construction would not begin until 2011. Had staff members taken 10 seconds to pick up the phone, they would have learned construction is scheduled to begin in 2009. Using a design-build process, this project would be on a fast track. The staff's decision jeopardizes \$130 million in federal funding Rep. Howard Berman obtained for the project and ignores strong support for the car-pool lane from the governor, dozens of key state and local officials, numerous community organizations representing commuters who endure the 405 daily, the California Department of Transportation and the county Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

The Transportation Commission should reverse its staff's recommendation when it meets next week and put the 405 project - and other vital L.A. projects - back on the front burner.

- Mike Feuer

Assemblyman, 42nd District

Please call the California Transportation Commission!!! Ask them to reverse staff's decision not to fund the 405 carpool lane and other projects critical to Southern California.

Call: 916-654-4245 or

E-mail: California_Transportation_Commission@dot.ca.gov



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